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## December 4, 2018

### Lausanne, Switzerland

# ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final Preview

The top six Junior skaters from each discipline will meet at the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final in Vancouver (CAN) this week. A total of 36 skaters/couples from seven ISU members have qualified during the seven events of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating series in Bratislava (SVK), Linz (AUT), Kaunas (LTU), Richmond (CAN), Ostrava (CZE), Ljubljana (SLO) and Yerevan (ARM).

#### **Overview of the competitors**

Petr Gumennik (RUS) was the only Junior Man to win his two Junior Grand Prix events and tops the list of qualifiers. The skater from St. Petersburg will compete in his first Final and will face defending silver medalist Camden Pulkinen (USA) as well as Adam Siao Him Fa (FRA), Tomoki Hiwatashi (USA), Koshiro Shimada (JPN) and Stephen Gogolev (CAN). Gogolev came in as a substitute for Andrew Torgashev (USA), who has withdrawn due to injury. Pulkinen is the only returning skater in the Junior Men's event.

Defending ISU Junior Grand Prix Champion Alexandra Trusova (RUS) leads a strong squad of five Russian Junior Ladies into the Final. Trusova became the first female skater to land a quadruple Lutz in international competition at the Junior Grand Prix Amber Cup in Lithuania. Reigning ISU Junior Grand Prix Final silver medalist Alena Kostornaia and bronze medalist Anastasia Tarakanova are back in the Final as well. Their teammates Anna Shcherbakova and Alena Kanysheva are newcomers in the Final as is the only non-Russian Junior Lady, Yelim Kim (KOR). Shcherbakova also has landed a quadruple Lutz in a domestic competition a few days before Trusova.

Russia dominated the Pairs on the Junior circuit and five of them made it to the Final: World Junior silver medalists <a href="Polina Kostiukovich/Dmitri lalin">Polina Kostiukovich/Dmitri lalin</a> and World Junior bronze medalists <a href="Anastasia Mishina/Aleksandr Galliamov">Anastasia</a> well as <a href="Kseniia Akhanteva/Valerii Kolesov">Kseniia Akhanteva/Valerii Kolesov</a>, <a href="Apollinariia">Apollinariia</a> <a href="Panfilova/Dmitry Rylov">Panfilova/Dmitry Rylov</a> and <a href="Anastasia Poluianova/Dmitry Sopot">Anastasia Poluianova/Dmitry Sopot</a> . <a href="Sarah Feng/TJ Newman">Sarah Feng/TJ Newman</a> (USA) are the only non-Russian Junior Pair in the Final. Panfilova/Rylov are the defending ISU Junior Grand Prix Final silver medalist while the other five teams will compete in their first Junior Final.

Arina Ushakova/Maxim Nekrasov (RUS) and Elizaveta Khudaiberdieva/Nikita Nazarov (RUS) lead the qualifiers in Ice Dance after taking gold in their two events. Competition should be tough with Avonley Ngyuen/Vadym Kolesnik (USA), Sofia Shevchenko/Igor Eremenko (RUS), Majorie Lajoie/Zachary Lagha (CAN) and Marina Kazakova/Georgy Reviya (GEO). The Georgians are the first Ice Dancers from their country to qualify for the Final.

#### **Prize Money**

The prize money made available by the ISU is 105,000 US\$. The prize money is awarded to winners and placed skaters/couples as follows:

Junior Men and Ladies

Junior Pairs and Dance (per couple)

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1st place US\$ 6,000	1st place US\$ 9,000
2 <sup>nd</sup> place US\$ 5,000	2 <sup>nd</sup> place US\$ 7,500
3 <sup>rd</sup> place US\$ 4,000	3 <sup>rd</sup> place US\$ 6,000
4 <sup>th</sup> place US\$ 3,000	4 <sup>th</sup> place US\$ 4,500
5 <sup>th</sup> place US\$ 2,000	5 <sup>th</sup> place US\$ 3,000
6th place US\$ 1,000	6 <sup>th</sup> place US\$ 1,500

#### Schedule of the event

Thursday, December 6 Junior Rhythm Dance, Junior Men, Junior Pairs & Junior Ladies

Short Programs, Men's & Ladies Short Program

Friday, December 7 Junior Free Dance & Junior Men Free Skating, Rhythm Dance,

Pairs Short Program, Men Free Skating

Saturday, December 8 Ladies & Junior Ladies Free Skating, Junior Pairs Free Skating,

Free Dance, Pairs Free Skating

Sunday, December 9 Exhibition Gala

Full entry lists and results of the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series are available here.

#### **Junior Grand Prix livestream**

The ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating events are live streamed on the official <u>ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating YouTube Channel</u>. Additionally, all performances since 2011 are available on demand.

<u>Subscribe</u> to the ISU Junior Grand Prix of Figure Skating YouTube Channel to receive all the latest videos and follow the conversation with #JGPFigure and #GPFigure.